

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An artificial joint for use as an endoprosthesis for a human knee joint, said artificial joint comprising a first joint compartment formed by a first condyle and a first socket and a second joint compartment formed by a second condyle and a second socket, wherein two contact surfaces of the respective joint compartments are offset in a main functional plane, and wherein the contact surfaces of the two joint compartments are sloped as a function of the knee joint flexion angle such that surface normals of the contact surfaces have a common point of intersection at each flexion angle.

2. An artificial joint according to claim 1, wherein the contact surfaces have a slope which ascends to a center of the joint.

3. An artificial joint according to claim 1, wherein the contact surfaces on both sides of a convex curvature dividing the joint socket of the first and second joint compartments are arranged at the junction to a concave shape.

4. An artificial joint according to claim 1, wherein the surface normals of the two contact surfaces form an angle of at most  $40^\circ$  relative to the effective direction of a resultant joint force loading the joint.

5. An artificial joint according to claim 1, wherein the contact surfaces each have a different slope angle.